



News Release

For immediate release: August 12, 2009

(09-128)

Contact: Media inquiries: Allison Cook, Communications Office
Public inquiries: Health Systems Customer Service

360-236-4022
360-236-4700

State disciplines health care providers

OLYMPIA — The Washington State Department of Health has taken disciplinary actions or withdrawn charges against health care providers in our state.

The department's Health Systems Quality Assurance Office works with boards, commissions, and advisory committees to set licensing standards for more than 70 health care professions (e.g., medical doctors, nurses, counselors).

Information about health care providers is on the agency Web site. Click on "Provider Credential Search" on the left hand side of the [Department of Health home page](http://www.doh.wa.gov) (www.doh.wa.gov). The site includes information about a health care provider's license status, the expiration and renewal date of their credential, disciplinary actions and copies of legal documents issued after July 1998. This information is also available by calling 360-236-4700. Consumers who think a health care provider acted unprofessionally are also encouraged to call and report their complaint.

Clark County

In April 2009 the Dental Commission denied the application of dental assistant **Heather Marie Breimon** (D160053528). She was convicted of driving under the influence.

In May 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program granted the application of certified nursing assistant **Andrea D. Ponce** (NC60019172) and placed her certification on probation for one year. She pleaded guilty to theft and must comply with terms and conditions set against her certification.

Grays Harbor County

In May 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program charged **Jason A. Koonrad** (NA00202054) with unprofessional conduct. He was convicted of child molestation.

King County

In May 2009 the Board of Physical Therapy granted the application of **Kari L. Chase** (P160047520) and placed conditions against her license. She was convicted of reckless driving and entered into a deferred prosecution for a charge of driving under the influence. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

Disciplinary actions

August 12, 2009

Page 2

In May 2009 the Health Care Assistant Program granted the application of **Elisha A. Ellis** (HC60016982) and placed her license on probation for one year. She was convicted of protection order violation. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

In May 2009 the Dental Commission charged dentist **Joseph G. Engh** (DE00008935) with unprofessional conduct. The care he provided allegedly fell below the standard while treating a patient. He failed to maintain adequate records and diagnosed the cause of a patient's pain before planning and performing treatment.

In May 2009 the Dental Commission amended the statement of charges against dentist **Jacob A. Kerst** (DE00007451). He allegedly practiced dentistry while addicted to narcotics and using steroid drugs, diverted drugs for his own use, and pleaded guilty to violating a domestic violence protection order and unlawfully acquiring a controlled substance. He also allegedly entered into a sexual relationship with a patient and failed to respond to department inquiries regarding patient records and patient abandonment.

In May 2009 the Nursing Commission charged registered nurse **Noe Lopez** (RN00173809) with unprofessional conduct. He allegedly failed to follow sterile procedure when catheterizing a patient, abused and berated the patient during the procedure, hit the patient with the catheter, spat on his genitals, poured betadine solution on his genitals, and inserted the catheter without using any lubrication.

In April 2009 the Nursing Commission reinstated the license of licensed practical nurse **Beverly C. Muhammad** (LP00033898) and placed it on probation. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

In May 2009 the Board of Pharmacy terminated the order of probation against pharmacy technician **Angela Tatarek** (VA00016510).

Kitsap County

In May 2009 the Nursing Commission reinstated the license of licensed practical nurse **Laurie McDougall** (LP00045509) and placed it on probation. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

Lewis County

In May 2009 the Board of Pharmacy charged pharmacy assistant and technician **Sabra L. Sin** (VB00066172, VA60017222) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly stole controlled substances for personal use while filling a prescription for someone else on more than one occasion.

Lincoln County

In April 2009 the Emergency Medical Services and Trauma System Program denied the

reactivation application of emergency medical technician **Raymond W. Hamilton** (ES00124034). He was convicted of driving under the influence on more than one occasion.

Pierce County

In May 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program reinstated the certification of certified nursing assistant **Daphne Z. Anderson** (NC10044243) and placed restrictions against it. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her certification.

In May 2009 the Nursing Commission reinstated the license of licensed practical nurse **Gretchen G. Dyer** (LP00039370) and placed it on probation. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

In May 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program charged certified nursing assistant **Tanisha R. Hartman** (NC10056003) with unprofessional conduct. She allegedly attempted to fill altered prescriptions and failed to respond to department inquiries regarding the allegation. She was also convicted of attempted bail jumping.

In May 2009 the Massage Therapist Program granted the application of **Angela M. Hughes** (MA60080226) and placed it on probation for three years. She was convicted of delivering marijuana for payment and driving under the influence. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

In May 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program granted the application of **Danielle N. Johnson** (NA60027999) and placed conditions on her registration. She was convicted of two counts of unlawful issuance of bank checks and possession of stolen property on more than one occasion. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her registration.

In May 2009 the Board of Pharmacy reinstated the license of pharmacist **Krzystof K. Pawlowski** (PH00017610) and placed it on probation for four years. He must comply with terms and conditions set against his license.

Skagit County

In May 2009 the Registered Counselor Program granted the application of **Shayla Jeanette Driskell** (RC60082076) and placed her registration on probation for two years. She was convicted of forgery and criminal possession of forged instrument. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her registration.

Snohomish County

In May 2009 the Nursing Commission reinstated the license of registered nurse **Judith M. Wangen** (RN00086893) and placed it on probation. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her license.

Spokane County

In May 2009 the Board of Pharmacy terminated the order of probation against pharmacist **Patrick J. Ashley** (PH00014275).

In May 2009 the Health Care Assistant Program charged **Steven M. Buckminster** (HC00131320) with unprofessional conduct. He was found guilty of rape of a child.

In May 2009 the Board of Pharmacy terminated the order of probation against pharmacist **Geoffrey J. Tesarik** (PH00018275).

Whatcom County

In April 2009 the Surgical Technologist Program denied the application of **Meridith Irene Behrendt** (ST60076694). She was convicted of attempting to assist a criminal.

Yakima County

In April 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program denied the application of **Lydia Danielle Martinez** (NA60057715). She entered into a deferred prosecution for driving under the influence and was convicted of reckless driving.

Out of State

Oregon: In May 2009 the Nursing Assistant Program granted the application of **Frances Jeanne Alvarez** (NA60041168) and placed conditions on her certification. She was convicted of possession of a controlled substance — methamphetamine. She must comply with terms and conditions set against her registration.

Note to Editors: Health care providers charged with unprofessional conduct have 20 days to respond to the Department of Health in writing. The case then enters the settlement process. If no disciplinary agreement can be reached, the case will go to a hearing.

###